



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

101 N. 14TH ST, 17<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
RICHMOND VA 23219

Air Force Association  
American Legion  
AMVETS  
Association of the United  
States Army  
Disabled American  
Veterans  
Fifth Baptist Veterans  
Ministry  
Fleet Reserve Association  
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans  
of America  
Korean War Veterans  
Association  
Legion of Valor of the  
U.S., Inc.  
Marine Corps League  
Military Order of the  
Purple Heart  
Military Officers Association  
of America  
Military Order of the  
World Wars  
National Association for  
Uniformed Services  
Navy Mutual Aid Association  
Navy Seabee Veterans of  
America  
Non-Commissioned  
Officers Association  
Paralyzed Veterans of  
America  
Reserve Officers Association  
Roanoke Valley Veterans  
Council  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Virginia Army/Air National  
Guard Enlisted  
Association  
Virginia National Guard  
Association  
Women Marines Association

Dec. 20, 2017

## JLC Contacts

Robert Huffman  
804-586-8874  
[rhuffman22@gmail.com](mailto:rhuffman22@gmail.com)

## Position Paper 2018-06 Increase State Tax Subtraction for National Guard to \$5,000

**OBJECTIVE:** Increase the state tax subtraction for members of the Virginia National Guard from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per year.

### **BACKGROUND:**

1. The Code of Virginia, §58.1-322(C)(11) provides for a subtraction of “*The wages or salaries received by any person for active and inactive service in the National Guard of the Commonwealth of Virginia, not to exceed the amount of income derived from 39 calendar days of such service or \$3,000, whichever amount is less; however, only those persons in the ranks of O3 and below shall be entitled to the deductions specified herein.*”
2. The subtraction level has remained at \$3,000 since at least 1994.
3. This is a joint initiative of the Virginia National Guard Association (VANG) and the Virginia Army/Air National Guard Enlisted Association (VAANGEA).

### **DISCUSSION:**

1. Soldiers and Airmen of the Virginia National Guard endure higher level of stressors in their service to the Commonwealth than do many citizens.
2. Economic factors place additional stressors on Guardsmen and their families.
3. Virginia Guardsmen work many hours in the performance of their Guard duties, making sacrifices of time, money, and family togetherness.
4. To have the same buying power as \$3,000 did in 1994, the tax subtraction would have to be increased to \$4,875.57 in 2016 (source: [http://www.bls.gov/data/inflation\\_calculator.htm](http://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm)).
5. Increasing the state income tax subtraction from \$3,000 to \$5,000 would help balance and compensate for financial shortfalls incurred through Guard service and the necessity to balance their civilian jobs, family life, and service as a citizen-soldier.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Governor and General Assembly increase the state income tax subtraction level for members of the Virginia National Guard from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per year.